



*A
Mid-Summer
Romance
by
Howard
Chandler
Christy
No. 5
The Ring*

Howard Chandler Christy

Why Science Believes We Are On Our Way Back to the Pygmies

Science Verifying the Scriptural Statement That "There Were Giants in Those Days" Explains How All Forms of Life Started Little, Grew Into Gigantic Beings and Are Now on the Downward Grade to Dwarfs Again.

By Dr. W. H. Fallou.

In Genesis chapter 6, verse 4, it is said: "There were giants in the earth in those days; and in the end thereof, when the sons of men were multiplied, there appeared upon the earth giants." Science, in its discussion of man, has pointed out that a creature, no matter how immensely human, could have been the ancestor of man, even though that fact be exaggerated and distorted. The mind of man is incapable of conceiving anything actually greater than its own self, and it is only by the aid of the imagination that it can grasp the idea of a creature so vastly greater than itself. The mind of man is incapable of conceiving anything actually greater than its own self, and it is only by the aid of the imagination that it can grasp the idea of a creature so vastly greater than itself.

Naturally, the expedition could not shoot, trap and secure the skins and skeletons of the little negroes, but they did secure and bring back model plaster casts, photographs and drawings from which a group of these most interesting humans has been modeled and set up in the Hall of Man.

The observations of the Lull and Chapin have aroused much discussion in scientific circles concerning the whole of prehistoric nature generally.

And the astonishing conclusions have been reached that every form of life on earth, including man, began in microscopic size, and grew into gigantic beings, and then, after a long period, began to dwindle again, and are now on the downward grade again, perhaps to pygmies.

For instance, Pliocene man, the dawn man, has been discovered to have been a pygmy. What is called the cephalic measure of his skull—that is, the contents of the brain—was only five inches. His skeleton and skull continued to increase, culminating in the Heidelberg giant of Germany, the largest human being who ever existed, whose cephalic index was 100, and whose skull was probably eight feet high.

The dawn man was probably not more than four feet high. The average human skull is reduced to an average of seven inches on the cephalic index, and the average skull frame is six feet.

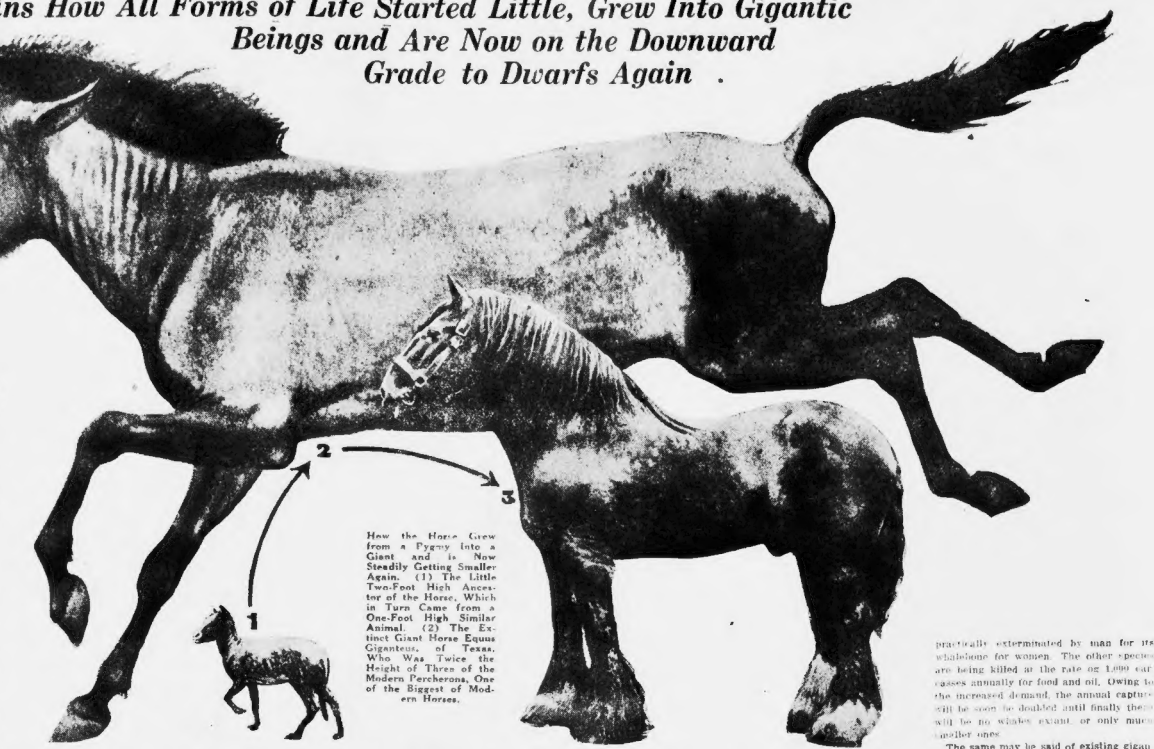
From Pliocene man, the Neanderthal giant was 250,000 years ago. The giant died at approximately 75,000 years ago. Man has, therefore, chronologically, grown from his highest point during 75,000 years.

The most useful of the domestic animals, the horse, started out 250,000 years ago as a tiny foot long little animal who was used for certain purposes in the field, a miniature replica of certain breeds of horse of today. It took him almost 2,000,000 years to grow up to the size of the gigantic horses of the Pleistocene, which were almost twice the height of the Percheron of today, which is now our largest horse. But these instances of small things increasing in size to giants, then declining again toward the original proportions, runs through the whole animal kingdom, including the insects.

Gigantism was caused, it is believed, by the conclusions of Professor Osborn's new work, "The Origin and Evolution of Life," in a gradual increase in the size and capacity of the pituitary and thyroid glands in all genera of animals.

To go back to the horse.

The first horse was Eohippus, of Lower Eocene times in Europe, which measured across Asia to western North America, and was four feet high, with four toes. Its successor was Mesoshippus, of Lower Oligocene times, two feet high, with three toes. It was followed by Miohippus, of Miocene times, three feet high and with three toes, which did not touch the ground as in the case of the former and were functionless. These were followed by varied species of horses of the genus Equus, ranging from Pliocene



How the Horse Grew from a Pygmy Into a Giant and is Now Steadily Getting Smaller Again. (1) The Little Two-Foot High Ancestor of the Horse, Which in Turn Came from a One-Foot High, Similar Animal. (2) The Extinct Giant Horse Equus Giganteus, of Texas, Who Was Twice the Height of Three of the Modern Percherons, One of the Biggest of Modern Horses.

times to the present. They culminated in size in the large Equus giganteus of Texas in Pleistocene times. Giganteus, according to Scott, exceeded in size modern draught horses. He may have been twice their size.

It is notable, however, that a pygmy horse also persisted. Equus can of Eocene, becoming extinct with gigantism and all other species of American horses in Pleistocene times, through serving as prey to carnivorous mammals and Pleistocene man, and through epidemic diseases. The draught horses, the Shetland pony and other varieties of today present the respective relative to smaller sizes.

The elephants began their career as exceedingly small mammals. Whether we start them with Moser, Herford, or Palaeomastodon of Lower Oligocene times of Egypt, or with the American Mastodons of Miocene times in America, they were not more than six feet high. The series culminated in size in the huge American elephant of the Pliocene time era, Elephas imperator, four feet high at the shoulder, with immense tusks, which, by rising, could add many feet to its height.

Here again the size of the tusks has gradually diminished to some ten feet in height. And here again a pygmy elephant has persisted almost from the beginning and would still be dominant on the islands of Cyprus and Malta if modern men had not limited it to extinction.

The dinosaurs began as little fellows, from one to two feet high or long, in the

Triassic era of Carboniferous where their footprints are found in the valleys and innumerable quantities of their bones. Anchiornis holds the honor as the original dinosaur. Gradually they increase in bulk until Jurassic times, when such awkward monsters as Brontosaurus reached a

was the largest carnivorous animal that ever lived. The American Museum has a pair of skeletons, one erected with head towering sixteen feet above the floor and with a length of forty-seven feet from nose to tail tip.

Brontosaurus is supposed to have weighed twenty tons and to have consumed 4,000 pounds of leaves at a meal. We don't know positively what type of reptile it descended from, probably from a small generalized lizard, or rhynchonellid, of Permian times in Texas. If the creature has any descendants they comprise some small lizard of modern times, say a scorpion or the Tarantula or Scorpion of New Zealand.

The rats, dogs, bears, etc., or, rather, the carnivora, began as small animals, rodents, in the Eocene era. Each type evolved into huge beasts as large as oxen, mostly in North America, but also in Europe and Africa. After lower Oligocene times they gradually dwindled in size to that of the modern lion, tiger, grizzly bear and domestic cat.

The largest lions, wolves, tigers and bears are characteristic of the fossils found in the rocks of California and Idaho. Of these the cat tribe is the most peculiar, having 250 separate bones and more than 400 muscles.

All of the cat family dislike water and will seldom enter it, probably due to the experiences of far-off ancestors with water reptiles and fear of being hauled under by large fish. First, cats had prehensile tails by which they hung to limbs of trees over water and caught passing fish. To this day

a cat loves fish above all other foods, but will not enter the water to capture the fishy ones. The gigantic cave bear was a true carnivore of elephantine size. His descendants, however, are carnivores only in skeleton form. As a matter of fact, the modern bear is a vegetarian.

The former gigantic extended wolf has become so reduced in form that he has now greater speed for catching prey and fleet limbs for escaping his one enemy—man. He has more brains than man, in a way, since there is no mammal extant so difficult to catch or kill as the wolf. Trap one, and every wolf around will thereafter avoid traps. Division one, and every wolf learns how it was done and thereafter can't be poisoned. Wolves sometimes enter closely guarded corrals and get away with sheep, lambs, calves, etc., at night without detection. First they slay the victim slowly with sharp fangs at its throat, then leap the fence with the carcass and are gone. Pursuit is vain. Can't they conceal their lairs where the young are born and reared, and seldom are these lairs ever entered and robbed by hunters?

Whales started as small primitive carnivorous land mammals, ambitious to go into the water where there was food in abundance. Thus, the Zeuglodon was first a deck, looking more like a sea serpent than a whale. The toothed form, common in with Eocene times, grew to enormous bulk, but have gradually dwindled to modern so-called dolphins, porpoises and narwhals.

The toolies or whalebone forms, such as the right whale, and the humpback, etc., of uncertain origin, are now at their most gigantic period and later will be found only in smaller bales or become extinct. Of these the right whale has been

practically exterminated by man for its whalebone for women. The other species are being killed at the rate of 1,000 per season annually for food and oil. Owing to the increased demand, the annual capture will be soon be doubled until finally there will be no whales except of only minor value.

The same may be said of existing gigantic sharks and rayfish, such as the six-ton basking shark, whale shark and the thirteen-ton, or ray, or devil fish. Their hides are wanted for leather, and they, too, will soon disappear entirely or be found only in diminutive sizes. Re-termination of the only existing gigantic land mammals, such as the elephant, hippos, rhinos, giraffes, etc., is likewise going on to feed the mass of commerce.

Of these only a few elephants will soon be left as drawers of wood. All of these animals are now undergoing their period of greatest, preliminary to a general decline in size all along the line.

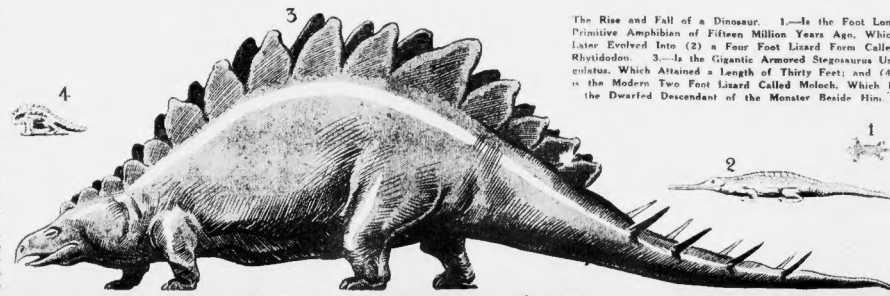
Snakes commenced some thirteen million years ago as small lizards, elongated like eels, and having but slender limbs. Whitson thought Anconocercus, a lizard of the Texas Permian-carboniferous era, might well have been a sufficiently generalized lizard to have been ancestral. Having discarded all of its lizard limbs and all of its skull bones except a new skeleton frame, it could swallow prey larger than itself, the snake, after nine million years, came to very near its present form, but of the most gigantic size.

Thus in the red sandstones of the Permian era of Patagonia of 4,000,000 years ago, Dinilysia was found by Wood. It was to be regarded of fifty feet long. The last of the giant snakes was in the Eocene period, Marsh finding the remains of Dinobius in the green sands of Monmouth County, N. J., a snake possibly even larger and more terrible than Dinilysia, and certainly having a wider opening of jaws and throat.

Therapsid snakes dwindled in length and girth down to our little town garters. At best we have no species existing longer than twenty-five feet or much larger than a stovetop, such as the python, the lion and the anaconda.

In the same Patagonian times with Dinilysia was the most gigantic turtle of any era, Meiolania, armored and terrible, living in marshes with one of the highest dinosaurs, Gonyosaurus. Thus the turtle began in the Triassic era as little fellows, gradually increasing in bulk, then declining in size down to such marine turtles from the West India as are seen in the markets.

The largest modern turtles, the leatherbacks, at most do not exceed 1,500 pound weight, and would have made but few headbutts for Meiolania. Out of that Patagonian age of huge creatures, which in this one of the most gigantic of birds, Pterodactyl, two forms have managed to survive the several million years of wear and tear of earth, that doubly armor of heron, Dromaeus, in the rivers of Chile and the mudfish, Crotaphaga, in the rivers of Queensland, Australia, once considered such big game by the Antarctic route when that now frozen region drew crews bananas.



The Rise and Fall of a Dinosaur. 1.—Is the Foot Long Primitive Amphibian of Fifteen Million Years Ago, Which Later Evolved Into (2) a Four Foot Lizard Form Called Rhynchosaurus. 3.—Is the Gigantic Armored Stegosaurus, Which Attained a Length of Thirty Feet; and (4) is the Modern Two Foot Lizard Called Melach, Which is the Dwarfed Descendant of the Monster Reptile Him.

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Became a Rajah's Queen and the Other the
Daughter-in-Law of One
of America's Most
Eccentric Millionaires

The Rance, it is believed, seeks to prove that the late Mr. Winans was incompetent mentally, and that the will under which he disinherited his grandchildren was invalid. Considerable reserve is still maintained concerning the legal action to be

Of all the interesting experiences of this remarkable family the most romantic was

At this instant a happy accident revealed the fact that the Maharajah was interested in another sister, Miss Dab.

Then came the difficulty of breaking the news to father Whana and the subsequent cutting off of supplies. The young couple, who were living in Paris, were reduced to great distress. At first Walter

has a great tiger preserve, a mountain palace, a lake with luxuriant houseboats and other wonders which are only known by report to the outside world.

During the late war the Mahar-jah visited America. While he was returning to

ing him under penalty of a serious disagreement. A similar request to stop helping

the finest jewels in the
s a turban that is en
ies and diamonds. Its
of exquisite colored silk,
and diamonds

war the Mahar-jah visited the Maharajah's preserve, a mountain with luxurious households which are only known outside world.

While he was returning to the submarine sunk the steamer. It was carrying \$400,000 in wonderful jewels. His reason because he was making

Young Tom Winans also began a struggle to break his father's will on the grounds that he was not of sound mind. He claimed that his father was suffering from various ailments that were supposed to

was in- various facts that were supposed to be
still main- out his contention. The son said t
on to be when he ordered newspapers at a Pa

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Astonishing Exploits of a Nation-Wide Organization
 Skilled Professionals Led by a Great Criminal Gen-
 Startling Achievements Outmatch Any-
 Detective Novels or in the Motion

Who is this master criminal whose guiding hand controls a

CHAPTER II.

The Case of the \$23,000 Fur Coat.

(Continued from Last Sunday.)

Some slight alterations were necessary—a row of skins

On these pages to-day and on following Sundays will be revealed for the first time some of the extraordinary exploits of this master mind as executed by his well-trained organization.

From the chief of his band this agent was instructed, so Ethel Durant told the police, to visit stores where expensive furs were sold and to devise some new plan for the theft of

Ethel Durant most for **How Ethel Durant and Her Tree Can**



After considering the \$23,000 cloak for sometime Ethel Durant sent the salesman for a less expensive one. Behind her, near a window, was a confederate, ostensibly a shopper for an inexpensive neckpiece.



As soon as the salesman's back was turned the Durant woman, with the quickness of a mountain trout darting for a fly, tossed the \$23.00 garment to the counter near the window where her confederate stood.

Ethel A. Durant, sometimes known as Gladys Vane, one of the most notorious of shoplifters, whose "specialty" is the theft of costly garments, is here wearing a \$23,000 fur one of the cleverest schemes yet seen within a few days not only large values. Below is her picture, but herself, her arrest and her release are still at large.

from exclusive fur shops. She is shown here wearing a \$23,000 fur cloak similar to a part of her loot. By one of the cleverest schemes yet devised she stole from fashionable stores within a few days not only this coat but others aggregating very large values. Below is her "Police Record Card" giving facts about herself, her arrest and her escape from justice. She is still at large.

Master Criminal

of Highly- -ius Whose -thing in the Pictures

expensive cloaks—the most marketable of all shoplifting loot. So watchful had store detectives and police departments become that ordinary plans for the theft of heavy pieces of fur were no longer feasible. One by one the tricks of the fur thieves had been revealed and circumvented. It was necessary to find some new way of foiling the watchful store detectives. And a plan which this agent was instructed to devise must be one which could be practised in a number of stores, almost simultaneously, so that profitable spoils might be garnered in before it could be detected and guarded against.

In this particular store in which happened the incident of which Ethel Durant related, this agent espied a window. Watchful for any detail he looked out the window and saw that it opened upon the roof far below. There was no way for a burglar to enter this window from the outside, for it opened through a sheer wall fifty or sixty feet above the roof below, therefore there were no iron bars, and its lock was only the ordinary window lock, easily sprung from the inside.

In a flash the fertile brain of this expert "planner" saw the possibilities of that window. He visited other stores in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. In several of these stores, he found a similar opportunity—a window that opened onto a lower roof, or even into an alleyway or onto a side street where there was not much pedestrian traffic.

His method in relation to each store in which he found an inviting window was the same. Let us follow Ethel Durant's description of the cunning activity as it affected the store and the theft which is described above. He reported to his chief with a complete pencilled plan of the room from which the window opened, with a drawing of the position of show cases, counters, stock cabinets and doors. He knew, also, how many salespeople were usually on duty in that room. What was their method of displaying cloaks. How many customers were, as a rule, in that room at certain hours of the day. And he knew also how a man could reach the roof below and leave it unobserved—by a stairway reaching up from the top floor of the lower building.

Like a stage director arranging the scenes of a new play, the master criminal carefully laid out a similar room. Here was the window, marked *a*. Here were the counters where small pieces of furs were displayed. Here stood the stock cabinets, where the expensive cloaks hung behind glass doors. Here was the cash desk, and here was the door which opened into the room. With the stage set the actors were called in. First there were the "salespeople"—a man "head salesman"—and two young women. Then there were "customers"—three or four men and women who were instructed to act as if they were in that room being served by the "salespeople," while they examined different pieces of fur on the mink, beaver counters and in appropriate cabinets.

federates Stole the \$23,000 Fur Cloak



"I think I shall like this one better," said Ethel Durant, as the salesman draped the second coat about her shoulders. Meanwhile her confederate was deftly rolling the other cloak into a compact bundle.



While Ethel Durant paid the salesman a deposit on the garment he had just removed from her shoulders her confederate tossed the \$23,000 bundle out of the window into the arms of the man waiting below.

Diagrammatic View of a Typical Large City Department Store, Showing Some of the Ingenious Methods Used to Thwart the Store Looters.

This girl (1) looks like the usual cash girl, yet she is a capable and experienced det. cive. While apparently on a store errand, she is really shadowing the couple in front of her, who are suspected members of the Master Criminal band.

Apparently this woman (2) is a customer. She has bought several things, at different counters, and is carrying some of her packages. In reality she is a store detective and is watching the man whom she has caught in the act of stealing a gold-handled umbrella, three counters away. She will follow him until he is about to leave the store, when she will place him under arrest.

This man (3) might be a cowboy from the West. Even the clerks make jokes about him, not knowing that he is the cleverest assistant of the chief of detectives here. He is closely watching the suspicious actions of the pair next him.

This "customer" (4) is examining a handkerchief. Really he is the chief of the store's detectives. When he turns to get a better light on the texture of the linen he is really signalling the floor walker (14) to stop the fashionably dressed woman just about to leave the store. "Please step up to the office, madam," the floorwalker will say politely but firmly. When the woman reaches the office this "customer" will be there to ask her to open her bag in which she has secreted several very costly blouses.

A woman detective (5) is watching a shoplifter (6) who is stealing an expensive watch while two of his confederates (7) are keeping the salesman busy.

This man (8) appears to be a humble porter at work. He has just leaned over seemingly to polish the bottom of a strand of brass. This is a signal to another detective (9) that at "one counter straight ahead there is a woman—with helpers." The detective signalled quickly discovers a woman shoplifter (10) busily hiding valuable pieces of silk while either side of her is a confederate keeping a clerk busy. When this trio leaves the store the detective (9) will arrest them.

The floorwalker (11) has been very watchful of a "mother and little daughter." He has seen the girl, being trained no doubt to become a clever aide to the master criminal, hide dozens of small things—like handkerchiefs and Irish linen collars—in a bag suspended under her short skirt.

When the busy salesman's back is turned this shoplifter (12) deftly fills her bag with whole bolts of the most expensive velvet trimmings.

Onto the scene now entered Ethel Durant, selected by the chief because of her poise and trained demeanor, and a cleverness at shoplifting which already had earned her a reputation among the police of a score of big cities. She asked the "head salesman" to show her a cloak, and with a cloak of her own, the actors were gone through. She watched the other "shoppers" and "salespeople" who were instructed to act as if she were not in the room, as if they were busy wholly at their own affairs. After the Durant woman there entered the young woman who, later, was to play an important part in the actual accomplishment of the plot underway.

This young woman was instructed to ask for an expensive neckpiece, one of those such as were displayed on a counter facing and near the window that opened on the roof. At a moment which, after much rehearsing, Ethel Durant decided was the psychological time, she tossed her cloak—presumably a rich, costly garment, such as would sell for several thousand dollars—onto the counter near where her confederate was looking at a neckpiece. The "salesman" waiting upon her had turned his back for an instant. The "saleswoman" attending the confederate also had been caused to turn her back at just this moment. The confederate picked up the cloak Durant had thrown onto the counter and tossed it through the dummy window—the place where the store window would be. Then the rest of the scene was rehearsed—just as Ethel Durant and the confederate actually acted. These rehearsals occupied several days—the confederate had to be trained to correctly throw a heavy fur coat. Durant had to practice tossing a cloak to one side, apparently carelessly, yet with such skill that it fell upon the right spot on the display counter, and fell folded so the confederate would lose no time in picking it up and throwing it in a closely folded bundle through the dummy window—the confederate had even to be trained to unlock this window and raise it so stealthily that the other "customers" and "salespeople" would not notice her.

When Durant and her assistant were properly coached, they selected an hour at which time there were likely to be just enough customers in the rear room to keep the salespeople busy—no so many that some one of them would be bound to witness any surreptitious acts.

Ethel Durant thoroughly familiar now with the room where fur cloaks were displayed, donned a most impressive afternoon street gown, hired a private limousine and drove to the store. She asked for the cloaks and was given at once into the hands of a capable salesman, he who had been impersonated at the rehearsals. A few moments later the woman confederate also entered the store—coming aloft, and asked to be shown those things which she knew were also displayed in the same room with the cloaks—neckpieces.

When she had wrapped the most expensive coat that was shown her, the mink and sable, around her

shoulders, the Durant girl decided this was the garment she would steal—it was one which could be immediately sold for a large percentage of its actual value. At the proper moment she asked that the second coat be again shown her. The salesman, very much impressed, hurried away, as told above. Quick as the dart of a mountain trout Ethel Durant threw aside the beautiful cloak she still retained about her shoulders, tossing it on a table near the window, which had been surreptitiously opened by the confederate. The salesman's back was turned but an instant, and there were other salesmen and saleswomen in the room, but each was busy—Ethel had convinced herself of that. In that instant the confederate lifted the heavy cloak from the table and tossed it out the window, just as she had rehearsed. It fell to the empty roof below. The third confederate, a man, was waiting there. Quickly he gathered in the cloak and in a trice had disappeared.

Probably that cloak was sold for \$15,000. Ethel Durant didn't know. She was paid \$1,000 for her share in the theft of it. The woman confederate was paid \$1,000. The man on the roof was paid \$500. Other confederates, including the agent who first discovered the window, were paid \$300 each. Where the balance went to Durant woman didn't know. She never met the master criminal. She only did what his agents ordered her to do. She was not worried about her arrest—she was inclined to be joyful with the officials about it. "I shall be freed," she declared. A few days after her arrest she was liberated under bail deposited for her by an unknown agent. She forfeited her bail and now is at large.

This is just one incident in the search for "America's Master Criminal," the chief of the amazing organization of shoplifters which has been found to be operating in a score of large cities, acting under orders as precise and effective as the orders of an army's high command, the one masterful brain which fur surpasses the boldness—ingenuity of a Raffles or an Arsene Lupin.

When Ethel Durant was caught in Boston she had confronted the one situation which not even the Master Criminal could provide against. She had been recognized as she was leaving the store by a store detective who was familiar with photographs of her. In the Boston store there was a window from the fur salesroom which opened onto an alleyway. A way had been found for the "outside" confederate to enter this alleyway from below, to wait there until a fur cloak came hurtling down into his arms, and then to make his escape. In every other store where these expensive cloaks, or rare sets of soles and muff had been stolen during the period just before Ethel

Durant's arrest, it was later discovered that there was a window, with a counter near it, from which the furs to be stolen had been tossed out to the confederate outside.

By this careful planning and elaborate rehearsing of new plots shoplifting has been lifted from petty offense the pastime of little thieves, such as it was thought to be but a few years ago, to a magnitude of operations which had startled the officials of nearly every large city in the United States. Out in the field there are hundreds or perhaps thousands of men and women who have been trained in a new school to steal from the stores and shops which women frequent, and where the apparel and ornaments dear to femininity are sold. From these shops this band of shoplifters, directed by the unseen hand, is gathering in millions of dollars in loot every month, its operations extending from New York to Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Pittsburgh and the other large cities east of the Mississippi River.

This organization is divided into departments. Confessions so far procured by the police and other evidence available have clearly defined these departments. First, there is an inner organization, which devotes its activities wholly to the theft of silks—the designation "silkies" really including rich laces, satins, damasks and rare velvets. These goods always are a staple article. They may be sold in bulk at any time to questionable dealers who like to purchase silks, satins and laces from any source whatever so long as they can purchase under the market price.

In New York City alone during the last twelve months department stores, wholesale houses and specialty shops have lost \$7,000,000 worth of goods of this character.

During the last six months \$200,000 worth of jewelry has disappeared from the sales and counters of New York's department stores. Pittsburgh reports the loss in all its stores together, of another \$100,000 worth. Boston stores have suffered almost as heavily.

To cope with this tremendous organization of daring thieves who are reaping millions of dollars in illicit profits with the public as the ultimate sufferer, an elaborate system of espionage has been built up by an association of the chief detectives of all the country's great stores. One by one the tricks of the master criminal were ferreted out, his methods and the methods of his band exposed and checkmated. This counter organization of "an army of defense," reaching into every nook and corner of every big store in the land, is one of the most fascinating developments of the modern day way of meeting the dangerous criminal upon his own ground. It will be described on these pages next week, together with some of the most unique "raids" upon department stores recently conducted by the mysterious master criminal himself.

(To Be Continued Next Sunday.)

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Mila, Mathilda Ksheshinskaya, the Former Czar's Favorite and Richest of All the Russian Imperial Dancers, Who Has Changed Places With Her Former Butler and Is Now Living on His Farm in an Obscure Village.

By Ivan Nardony.

Author of "The Dance," Etc.

In the great cataclysm of blood and terror that has fallen upon once mighty Russia there is no more appealing problem than the fate of the Russian Imperial Ballet, created and lavishly fostered by a long line of Czar.

What has become of these lovely alluring, delicate creatures, incomparable exponents of the dance, raised to be an ornament of the world's most luxurious and extravagant court? Have they met a dreadful fate at the hands of violent, fanatical revolutionists? Have they been executed along with other unaccounted victims of the revolution? Have they been left to minister to the pleasures of the despots of the proletariat?

Even to those who have followed Russian affairs most closely and have been in frequent communication with the court, the fate of many of the imperial dancers still remains a mystery. Is not the case of the Czar himself and his whole family still much of a mystery?

Concerning the dancers, however, we have reason to believe that a few have met a tragic end, others have fallen into prison slavery, while many, probably the majority, have been able to exist, for amusement is a necessity even of the most ardent revolutionists.

The greatest interest naturally centres about Mademoiselle Mathilda Ksheshinskaya, perhaps the most celebrated of the Russian dancers, the capricious little queen of the imperial stage, who danced upon the world when poor Czar Nicholas was a susceptible youth and had not yet inherited the throne. He became so fascinated by her that he wished to spend the rest of his days in romantic attendance upon her. It was with the greatest difficulty that his august father and the other authorities of the empire convinced him that he must take a consort more fitting to his rank.

Mlle. Ksheshinskaya was not the most beautiful of the imperial dancers, but few ever excelled her in grace, although her style was less original than that of some artists who have more recently won fame. She retired from the stage quite early, and the aristocratic Czar bestowed upon her a magnificent palace, worthy of a member of the imperial family. This residence became one of the greatest centres of dissipated aristocratic Bohemian life and dance, Oriental paintings, powerful statues, brilliant artists, Boumians and interesting adventures thronged its brilliant salons.

The clever dancer never lost her influence over Czar Nicholas, and the Czar himself admitted her during his secret occasions the artist, by her fascination and authority, influenced the emperor to infringe the most rigid rules of court etiquette.

One day there was a special gala performance of a play at the Winter Palace in Petrograd, to which all the great dignitaries of the empire and foreign diplomats were invited as guests of the Czar. It was held in the great ballroom.

An arm chair in the centre of the first row was reserved for the Czar, and on one side was a chair for the dancer. Mademoiselle Mathilda Ksheshinskaya took her place in the first row. As she was well known to the police, she was easily recognized by the police, and she was easily recognized by the police, and she was easily recognized by the police.

During the early days of the war Mlle. Ksheshinskaya and the other dancers received all their necessities and popularity and helped by their art and personal charm to lighten the gloom of the great conflict.

Then the Czar fell and the Bolsheviks arrived in power. The beautiful palace of Mlle. Ksheshinskaya was seized by Lenin

What the Bolsheviki Did to the Czar's Favorite and Richest of All the Russian Imperial Dancers, Who Has Changed Places With Her Former Butler and Is Now Living on His Farm in an Obscure Village.



Mila, Tamara Karasvina, the Great Dancer, Who Ventured Back to Russia

During the Revolution, Was Pursued by the Most Violent Bolsheviki on Account of Her Beauty, but Escaped to England.

and Trotsky and the unwashed male and female subordinates of these redoubtable leaders filled its salons, working there by day and sleeping there at night. From her palace were sent out the fiercest proclamations of revolt that were instrumental in overthrowing the moderate Socialist Government of Kerensky and establishing the Bolsheviks in power.

The Bolshevik revolution abolished the Imperial Ballet automatically by depriving the institution of all means of support. One day, without warning, the doors of the great Mariinsky Theatre, the headquarters of the great ballet, were closed. If it had remained open, it is believed the unrestrained mob might have wrecked the building and attacked the performers.

Prowling hordes smashed windows, broke into the building and plundered its contents. Wind, rain and snow compelled the haves they began. The former couple of grace and luxury became a couple of the gutter. Following the wreck of the institution, some of the dancers perished, others fell into degrading occupations, while others exercised their wit to maintain themselves.

There was only one use, in Petrograd for a time who could tell the hidden place of Mlle. Ksheshinskaya. That was Fedor, her former butler, who is now a powerful functionary in a local soviet.

"Comrade Mathilda is at night," whispered Fedor to a citizen who dared to inquire. "We simply exchanged our dwellings. She took my little house and farm in the village, and I took her house in the city. She is better off on her country farm than she was here."

Mlle. Ksheshinskaya, I hear, is now in the small village of Lirova, many hundred miles from Petrograd, dressed as a rough Russian peasant woman, deprived of all her beautiful dresses, her priceless jewelry

and the many jewels which the Czar gave her. Instead of a palace, she lives in a hut of two rooms—a big living room and a kitchen. There is a small orchard containing some apple trees and a stable with a cow and horses atached to the farm.

Mlle. Ksheshinskaya is interested in rabbits and wildfowls, which she is raising with the hope that they will bring her a little money. She supports herself with the produce of this farm. With her own hands she has raised potatoes, cabbages, etc., etc.

The brilliant dancer lives not unappetizingly in the little village. The simple people and their wives, who can neither read nor write, do not know who she is and do not care. She is so simple and unpretending as a peasant woman herself.

The Russian peasants are, of course, passionately fond of music and dancing. Very often the young men and girls of the village gather in some barn or in a meadow and sing and dance to the accompaniment of a concertina or fiddle played by a village musician.

Comrade Mathilda takes a lively part in these affairs and sings and dances with the others. Though her neighbors thought Mathilda was quite a graceful dancer, they paid little attention to that. Then a wandering gypsy orchestra came to the village and rendered parts of several noted Russian ballets. Comrade Mathilda ran out and danced in the moonlight with entrancing skill some wonderful measures. The vil-

lage people were carried off their heads by her art and then admitted that she was far different from any of the others.

Fully as interesting are the adventures of Mlle. Tamara Karasvina, the most beautiful ballerina of the imperial ballet, who was only twenty-two at the time of the revolution. She surprised in her made swiftness, delicacy, birdlike airiness, flowing grace and lyric phrases all her rivals.

When Petrograd fell into the power of the Red Guard she escaped from the city disguised as a dark-skinned gypsy boy, with a tambourine, fiddle and harp, and covered her face with cross paint. With her she took her favorite wildfowl boots, when she had trained to dance to simple music. Helped and protected by his noble animal she was able not only to avoid all dangers of the road but earned a good deal of money. Finally she reached Kiev, a little isolated town in the picturesque steppes, which appeared to her so much that she decided to make it her home.

After a few weeks of life in the steppe she found horseback riding so interesting that she decided to raise horses and sheep. But then she discovered a berry of very delightful flavor and taste, out of which she made a drink. The effect of the strawberry drink was strange, stronger than wine, stimulating life and imagination. She, alcoholic drinks in Russia were prohibited, she prepared a few bottles of her strange juice, and out of these she made candies, which she packed in neat boxes made of birch-tree bark by the village children.

Having prepared a number of these candy boxes, she opened a store in the little town, where people could sit, eat candies and discuss politics. Soon she became friendly with all the townspeople and she threw off her masculine gypsy disguise and appeared as an exceedingly beautiful girl, dressed in the picturesque South Russian peasant costume.

The customers became so eager for the candies that her whole store was sold out. As there was a scarcity of sugar and as the berry time was over, beautiful Natasha found herself with a lot of money, but an empty store. Natasha then purchased all the honey she could get from the farmers

and put up other candies in boxes on which she printed her own picture and the story of how she became a candy maker. The honey-candies of beautiful Natasha became very popular and made her engaged in cultivating strawberry berries for the next season when she will have so much that she will make enough in fact for a whole season in the town. She has a wife and a young girl who will manage the business as long as the Bolshevik rule lasts in Russia.

Many of the pretty dancers of the imperial ballet have gone to distant villages, and some have remained small villages and are now travelling dancers, companies. Since the treasures of nobles and more cheerful, grand dotes and high functionaries have vanished from the cities, much wealth has gone to the country. Russian literature, science, money and society have found their way to a great extent, to remote villages. It is not unusual to meet a simple enough woman with a most modern wardrobe, ribbons and beads around her neck.

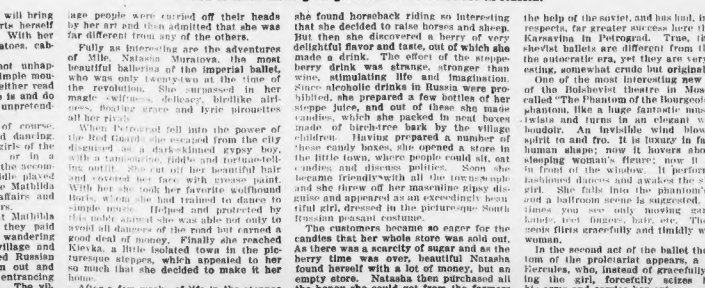
Mlle. Tamara Karasvina, whom many consider falls as beautiful as Maratona, has been a brilliant figure for several years in London and Paris. She returned back to Russia during the revolution and for a time enjoyed great success with Bolshevik audiences. But suddenly she found herself in great danger because her beauty and attracted a prominent official and she was happy to leave in England.

A truly public dancer, Mlle. Karasvina has been able to run the Moscow ballet with the help of the soviet, and has had, in many respects, far greater success here than did Karasvina in Petrograd. True, the Bolshevik ballets are different from those of the aristocratic era, yet they are very interesting, somewhat crude but original.

One of the most interesting new ballets of the Bolshevik Theatre in Moscow is called "The Phantom of the Bourgeois." The phantom, like a huge fantastically machine-like and turns in an elegant woman's bodice. An invisible wind blows the spirit to and fro. It is a luxury in fantastic human shape; now it hovers above the sleeping woman's figure; now it dances in front of the window. It performs odd fashioned dances and awakes the sleeping girl. She fell into the phantasm's arms and a bedroom scene is suggested. Sometimes you see only moving garments, long, long, hairy etc. The actor seems to flow gracefully and lightly with the woman.

In the second act of the ballet the phantom of the proletariat appears, a robust, Hercules, who, instead of gracefully courting the girl, forcibly seizes her in his arms and carries her out.

Mlle. Geltzer, in an Exciting Scene of Her Remarkable Bolshevik Ballet, "The Phantom of the Bourgeois," Which Is Entertaining Huge Bolshevik Audiences in Russia.



Synopsis of Preceding Chapters

Norah confesses to Lord Estcourt's aunt, Lady Sarah Rochester, who promises her assistance. Delacour returns under a cloud and demands, as the price of his silence, that Norah shall help re-establish him socially.

"I Hold Thee by Too Many Bands."

"Yes." And Lady Estcourt told her what had passed. "I hope I am not doing wrong in promising to be friends with him," she concluded, "but really I had very little choice. He did not exactly threaten me, but he let me see that it would

"Fancy little Felicity a grown-up young lady and you a chaperon!" Lady Sarah exclaimed. "What is the child like? I have not seen her for some time."

"I am not," she answered, "half an Englishman (now, and more than ever) in education and tastes, natural that I should do as my real home with so much kindness, interest and admiration, not met before and she why her sister did not him. There was a moment of embarrassment as they Lady Esteourt still hesitated she said, slowly:

"Mr. Delacour—my sister Marchmont."

"It is just possible," she said to herself, hopefully, "that—seeing nothing to account for such a letter—she has come to look upon it as a hoax. Oh, having waited so long, she does not like to produce it now." And out of sight and sound

are a judge of character. I said, "If a man walks earth as though it belongs to him, we immediately conclude he must be a person of importance, and if he be fortunate to possess an appearance such as yours, it seems a fitting habitation for

you," she retorted, "true all the mischief would be done at all."

Continued on Next Page

Continued from Preceding Page

"Yes," was the deliberate reply. "as it is you I will acknowledge that I have heard that Delacour was concerned in his official capacity with some doubtful transaction and that he was requested to resign by his Government."

he lingered on the last words of the man who had been so resistant to say that he was a Jew. "And now," said the old man, "I wonder, that old life was leaving him? That the things he had valued so highly — popularity, ease, distinctions — were on the wane? That he had had the best of existence, as he understood it, and that the future would give him ever less and less? There was a chorus of applause

"No, I don't think I shall," she said, carelessly. "After all, the amateur photographer is such a trial to one's friends."

"Really?"—he began.

"Oh, I beg your pardon, he interrupted with a merry laugh; "of course, I did not mean that to be taken personally. But you know

wrong between him and the Estcourts, especially as Norah and her sister were constantly meeting him. Lord Estcourt, who shirked a good many society functions, having satisfied himself that Delacour had given up coming to the house, was satisfied, and held his peace.

(To Be Continued Next Sunday.)

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It is a minute Lady Nettle.

band in the velvet glove and the iron fist. My help was the price of his shores. Now, if I give it, Will honor be left to close his lips? At one time he would not have doubted he doubted now.

Following afternoon Nora "At home" to her friends, and many people dropped in.

fingered on the door and he realized, Norah wondered, that the old life was leaving him; that the things he had valued so dearly—security, ease, distinction—were on the wane? That he had had the best of existence, as he had the best of his friends? Would he give him ever less and less? There was a chorus of applause

and he realized and he leaped to his eyes. He no longer gentled; he strode from the stage, he struck out a new path for himself.

His voice was eager and excited; his friends would marvel he remembered what he said and his eyes flashed, back the light in his,

favorable and he thought you intended to say it up.

"No, I don't think I shall," he said, carelessly. "After all, the amateur photographer is such a trivial friend."

"Really," he began.

"Oh, I beg your pardon; the important thing is merry."

"Of course," did not mean that to be taken personally. But you know

conclusion.

"He must be the man," thought. "Everything points him. It seemed too easy a game at first, and they put me off scent, but there is no one who seems in the least likely to have made careful inquiries,

Straw Misplaced May Make

"It must be the man," she thought. "Everything points to him. It seemed too easy a guess, but they put me off the track, and there is no one else who seems in the least likely. I made careful inquiries, and

wrong between him and the Estcourts, especially as Norah and her sister were constantly meeting him. Lord Estcourt, who shirked a good many society functions, having satisfied himself that Delacour had given up coming to the house, was satisfied, and held his peace.

(To Be Continued Next Sunday.)

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Faithfully has France wrought

Last year we were in doubt that August of this year would see any of the *Spécialités de Djer-Kiss* coming into this country.

But with the Armistice in November, and the signing of the great peace at Versailles in June, came a new era.

The struggle to plan—to make—to ship to you your favorite Djer-Kiss in its *Spécialités* varied is past. And now, everywhere the country over you can get all the *Spécialités de Djer-Kiss*. Even Djer-Kiss Talc, which you have at times been compelled to go without, is once more to be obtained.

Faithfully indeed has France wrought in times of war the arts of Peace! Long may she remain secure in her future faithful accomplishment

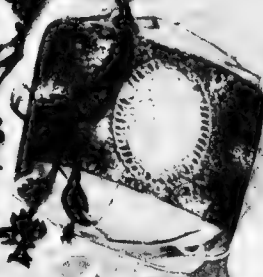
EXTRACT
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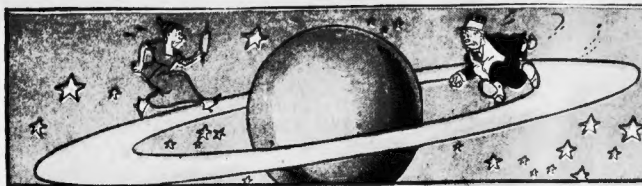
*These two Spécialités only temporarily made in America

Djer-Kiss

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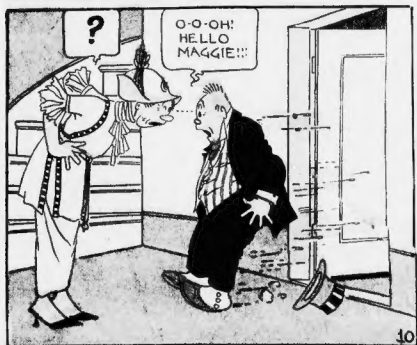
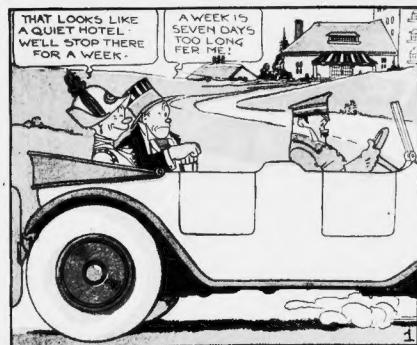


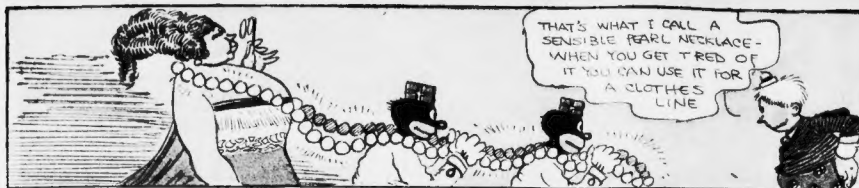


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Bringing Up Father



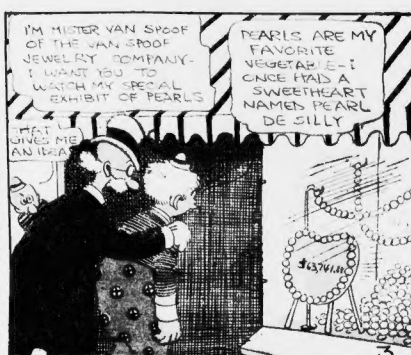


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Boob McNutt



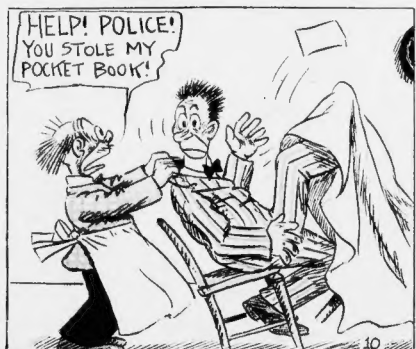


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Mr. Dubb



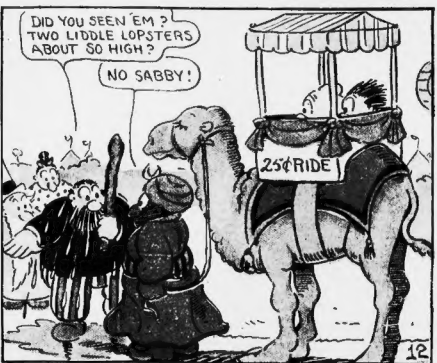
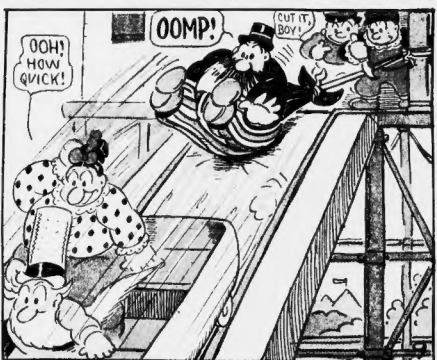
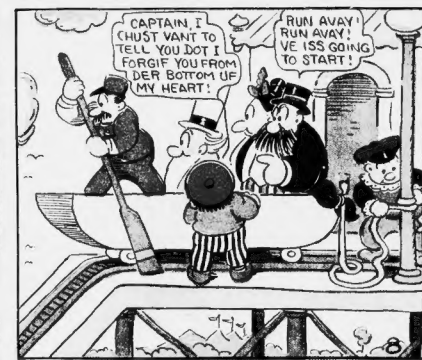
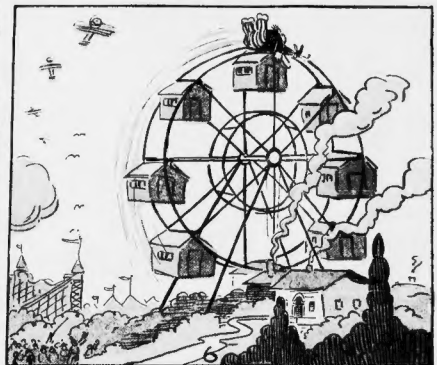


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The Shenanigan Kids



The Shenanigan Kids Live in Animated Pictures, Made by International Film Service, Released Through Educational Film Corporation of America, and Shown at Best Theatres